This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 Claim 1 (original): A method for processing a message for
2 establishing a label-switched path, the method comprising:
3   a) determining whether or not the message includes
4 extended information;
5   b) if the message does not include extended
6 information, determining, using a first part of the message
7 and routing information, whether or not to generate a
8 further message to signal the label-switched path; and
9   c) if the message does include extended information,
10 determining, using a second part of the message and routing
11 information, whether or nor to generate a further message
12 to signal the label-switched path.

1 Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the
2 message is a label-mapping message.
3
1 Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the
2 message includes a FEC-label association.

1 Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the
2 message includes a label distribution protocol
3 label-mapping.

1 Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the
2 routing information was determined using an interior
3 gateway protocol.

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1 Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the
2 extended information includes resolution next hop
3 information.

1 Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 6, wherein the
2 resolution next hop information includes a host address or
3 prefix.

1 Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 7, wherein the
2 method is performed by a first node in a network domain,
3 and
4   wherein the host address or prefix is of a second node
5 in the network domain.

1 Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 8, wherein the
2 second node is an autonomous system border router.

1 Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 8, wherein the
2 first node runs an interior gateway protocol for generating
3 routing information in the first node, and
4   wherein the routing information includes an entry for
5 the second node.

1 Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the
2 first part of the message includes an address or prefix of
3 a node.

1 Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 11, wherein the
2 node is an ingress node of the label-switched path.

1 Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 12, wherein the
2 method is performed by a second node in a first network

4

3   domain, and

4   wherein the ingress node is in a second network

5   domain.

1   Claim 14 (currently amended): A machine-readable storage

2   device storing ~~including~~ a machine-readable message

3   comprising:

4   a)   a first field including a label;

5   b)   a second field including forwarding equivalency

6   class information; and

7   c)   a third field including label-switched path

8   signaling resolution information, the label-switched path

9   signaling resolution information including one of a host

10   address and a host prefix,

11   wherein the label included in the first field is

12   to be used by a forwarding device, receiving the message,

13   for forwarding data only if the data forwarding device has

14   a routing table entry that matches at least one of (A) the

15   forwarding equivalency class information included in the

16   second field, and (B) the host address or the host prefix

17   included in the third field.

     Claim 15 (canceled)

1   Claim 16 (currently amended): The machine-readable storage

2   device of claim 14 ~~15~~, wherein the forwarding equivalency

3   class information includes an address or prefix of a second

4   node in a remote network domain, and

5   wherein the host address or the host prefix included

6   in the third field is of a ~~the~~ first node which is in a

7   local network domain, and

5

8   wherein the data forwarding device is in the local
9   network domain.

1   Claim 17 (original): The machine-readable storage device
2   of claim 16, wherein the first node is an automonous system
3   border router.

Claim 18 (canceled)

1   Claim 19 (original): The machine-readable storage device
2   of claim 14, wherein the message is a label mapping
3   message.

Claims 20-23 (canceled)

1   Claim 24 (original): The machine-readable storage device
2   of claim 14, wherein the message is a label distribution
3   protocol label mapping message.

1   Claim 25 (original): Elements for processing a message for
2   establishing a label-switched path comprising:
3   a) means for determining whether or not the message
4   includes extended information;
5   b) means for determining, using a first part of the
6   message and routing information, whether or not to generate
7   a further message to signal the label-switched path if the
8   message does not include extended information; and
9   c) means for determining, using a second part of the
10   message and routing information, whether or nor to generate
11   a further message to signal the label-switched path if the
12   message does include extended information.

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1   Claim 26 (original):   The elements of claim 25, wherein the
2   message is a label-mapping message.
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1   Claim 27 (original):   The elements of claim 25, wherein the
2   message includes a FEC-label association.

1   Claim 28 (original):   The elements of claim 25, wherein the
2   message includes a label distribution protocol
3   label-mapping.

1   Claim 29 (original):   The elements of claim 25, wherein the
2   routing information was determined using an interior
3   gateway protocol.

1   Claim 30 (original):   The elements of claim 25, wherein the
2   extended information includes resolution next hop
3   information.

1   Claim 31 (original):   The elements of claim 30, wherein the
2   resolution next hop information includes a host address or
3   prefix.

1   Claim 32 (original):   The elements of claim 31, wherein the
2   elements are included in a first node in a network domain,
3   and
4   wherein the host address or prefix is of a second node
5   in the network domain.

1   Claim 33 (original):   The elements of claim 32, wherein the
2   second node is an autonomous system border router.

1   Claim 34 (original): The elements of claim 32, wherein the
2   first node runs an interior gateway protocol for generating
3   routing information in the first node, and
4   wherein the routing information includes an entry for
5   the second node.

1   Claim 35 (original): The elements of claim 25, wherein the
2   first part of the message includes an address or prefix of
3   a node.

1   Claim 36 (original): The elements of claim 35, wherein the
2   node is an ingress node of the label-switched path.

1   Claim 37 (original): The elements of claim 36, wherein the
2   elements are included in a second node in a first network
3   domain, and
4   wherein the ingress node is in a second network
5   domain.

1   Claim 38 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein the second
2   part of the message includes at least one of a host address
3   and a host prefix corresponding to a node within a local
4   network domain.

1   Claim 39 (new): The elements of claim 25, wherein the
2   second part of the message includes at least one of a host
3   address and a host prefix corresponding to a node within a
4   local network domain.

1   Claim 40 (new): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

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2   d)   generating, if it is determined to generate a

3   further message to signal the label-switched path, a

4   label mapping message.

1   Claim 41 (new): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

2   d)   generating, if it is determined to generate a

3   further message to signal the label-switched path, a

4   label mapping message including an outgoing label; and

5   e)   creating a forwarding state binding between the

6   outgoing label and a label in the message.

1   Claim 42 (new): The elements of claim 25, further

2   comprising:

3   d)   means for generating, if it is determined to

4   generate a further message to signal the

5   label-switched path, a label mapping message.

1   Claim 43 (new): The elements of claim 25, further

2   comprising:

3   d)   means for generating, if it is determined to

4   generate a further message to signal the

5   label-switched path, a label mapping message including

6   an outgoing label; and

7   e)   means for creating a forwarding state binding

8   between the outgoing label and a label in the message.

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